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PatentIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hitoshi Tsunashima, et al.) Re: Information Disclosure
Serial No.: 10/565,895) Statement
Filed: January 24, 2006) Group: not yet assigned
For: "IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD...")) Examiner: not yet assigned
)) Our Ref:B-5875PCT 623209-5
)) Date: December 21, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. A copy of each foreign and non-patent document listed is enclosed herewith along with it's English language abstract.

The documents listed were cited in the International Search Report for International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/010618. A copy of the Search Report is enclosed herewith.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, please contact the undersigned to authorize a payment of \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), if the

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Examiner believes that such a fee is due in order for this IDS to be considered on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on January 9, 2007 by Guillermo Gonzalez.



Respectfully submitted,

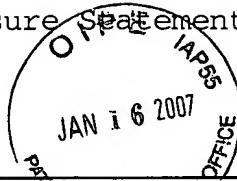


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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)
Copy of each foreign and non-patent document listed
Copy of International Search Report

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LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS STATEMENT	APPLICANTS Tsunashima, et al.	
	FILING DATE January 24, 2006	GROUP not yet assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE or 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
	2003-061956	3/2003	JP			Abstract
	2002-374418	12/2002	JP			Abstract
	09-204513	8/1997	JP			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Arai, Y., et al., "Practical Model "3DX" of limited Cone-Beam X-Ray CT for Dental Use" CARS2001, pp. 671-675 (2001)	
"Basic Performance of Practical Model "3DX" of Limited Cone-Beam X-Ray CT", Dental Radiology 2000, 40(2), pp.145-154 (2000)	
Befu, S., et al., "A Study on the 3-Dimensional Model Construction Using Ortho-CT", Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers Technical Research Report MI2000-75, pp.145-149 (2001)	
Befu, S., et al., "A Study in 3-Dimensional Image Processing Method for 3 DX Multi Image Micro CT", CARS2001, pp. 665-670 (2001)	
Tsunashima, H., et al., 3-Dimensional Image Construction Method in a Small x-Ray Calculated Tomography for Dental Use", Med Imag. Tech. 21:157-165 (2003)	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant